

Letter From Arkansas.

Ed. Register:—During the trial of Haywood at Boise, Idaho, the following ought to prove interesting reading:

"Claud C. Baldwin, being first duly sworn, upon oath deposes and says that he makes this affidavit voluntarily, and that no person has used any influence of any nature whatsoever to get him to make this affidavit; and that all the things stated in this affidavit are true of affiant's own knowledge. That during the month of November, 1903, and after said time, Harry Orchard, who was also using the name of Tom Hogan, was in the employ of the Cripple Creek Mining Operators' Association, and was reporting regularly to the military forces stationed at Victor, Colo., during that time; that this affiant saw the same Tom Hogan on the 14th day of November, 1903, and heard him make his report for that day. That just prior to the breaking of the cable and killing of fifteen men on Stratton's Independence mine, on the 26th day of January, 1904, this affiant, together with Mr. Traveller, H. G. Moore, A. T. Holman, S. D. Crump and Nelson Franklin met in the house of the said Traveller, and during the conversation it was stated that something must be done to break the force of the strike, then being carried on by the Western Federation of Miners. It was then suggested that the shaft-house be blown up; but after some conversation it was agreed that that time was too large a cost. Afterwards it was agreed that some person should be selected who would, by use of acid, weaken the cable used on the hoist in said mine, and that one Frank Gelisse was to be used as engineer at the proper time, and that he was to be instructed to let the cage run up to the shive wheel and thus break the weakened cable and drop the cage to the bottom of the mine. A few days later it was done, but fifteen men were killed. A few days prior to the 22d day of November, 1903, there was a meeting at which it was agreed that Harry Watters and H. T. Guyton were to pull off a premature explosion in the Vindicator mine. That could not well be done during the day time unless near the hour of 4 o'clock; so it was finally agreed that an explosion should occur on the sixth level at some time when the cage was lowered. It was agreed that a wire should be stretched across the shaft and the lowering of the cage should set off the explosion. The powder was placed in position and a Colts revolver, bearing the United States stamp, was so fixed that the wire would pull off the revolver and the revolver would explode the powder. Jack Bowman was approached about this matter, but from all I can learn, the price offered was too small and Bowman declined to carry out the matter. On the night of November 22, 1903, after the explosion had occurred and killed Beck and McCormack, I had a conversation at the Vindicator mine with Frank Woods and Sherman Bell and A. T. Holman, and they said that the wire had been stretched across the shaft and that Beck and McCormack, not knowing that the thing was in place, went down on the cage and the explosion followed, killing them. I saw the revolver which had been used to cause the explosion, and it was a United States weapon. Afterwards another weapon was substituted, a little bulldog revolver. The parties who fixed the explosives in place were to leave the mine through a tunnel level connecting therewith.

"That on or about the 30th day of May, A. D. 1904, at the Palace Hotel, in Denver, a meeting was held, at which I was present, and between S. D. Crump, A. T. Holman, Mr. Copeland, A. E. Carlton, H. G. Moor and Nelson Franklin. In the conversation it was said that something had to be done, as no success had been made towards breaking the strike. It was first proposed to blow up the F. & C. C. depot in Victor, but some of the parties objected to that, and finally it was agreed that the Independence depot at Independence station should be blown up, for the reason that it was an old abandoned depot and the cost would not be much; and furthermore, that Independence and Altman were the hot beds of the W. F. M. mem-

bers at that time. It was agreed that when the depot was blown up the explosion was to be charged to the Western Federation Miners. Some of the parties asked who would be the proper person to have charge of this explosion, and Messrs. Copeland and Franklin stated that they would answer for Harry Watters and H. E. Guyton doing the job. It was agreed that the explosion should be pulled off just after the train left the depot, and that care was to be taken so that no one would be killed. On June 8, 1904, I heard Franklin and Copeland say that it was too bad that the men were killed at the Independence station, and they said that the men who pulled it off must have been drunk.

"Before going down to Dumville, Naylor, Watters, Guyton and others were sent ahead and were to station themselves in the hills, and when the armed forces came came down they were to begin firing as rapidly as possible, to give the impression that the miners were firing upon our armed forces. A telegram was sent, under agreement, from near Dumville stating that the miners were there with a large armed force. That was done to have an excuse for going down there. When the armed force arrived—and I was present with that armed force—the firing in the hills occurred as prearranged, and as soon as we began firing these men, who had been sent down on horseback, immediately returned to Victor, so as to be there before we got back. The John Corley who was killed at that time was deliberately murdered, and I know the name of the man who fired the shot, and will at some future time make his identity known. These things were done through orders issued from military headquarters.

"On the 12th day of June, 1904, a proposition was made to me, at the military club in Victor, by Nelson Franklin and Thomas E. McClelland to go to Cripple Creek and murder Attorney Frank J. Hange, of Western Federation of Miners. I was told if I did the job I would lose nothing by it. 'We will look out for you,' was the remark of Mr. Franklin. The next day I was told, by the same parties, to go to the office of the said Frank J. Hange, and if I found him seated at his desk, to hit him over the head with my gun, and if he raised his hands to ward off the blow, to shoot him, and they would stand by me. I refused to carry out their instructions, but did go to his office and arrest him. Thos. E. McClelland, Nelson Franklin and O. P. Hanford were on the sidewalk, Bonnet avenue, Cripple Creek, when McClelland told me to go up to Hange's office and beat him — head off.

"Some time between the 13th and 19th of June, 1904, it was agreed by members of the Mine Owners and Operators Association that the military guards should be withdrawn from the hall in Victor, where there were a large number of Western Federation of Miners members confined, and the hall was to be set on fire and gun-men were to be placed around the building in such a manner that they could shoot the men as they came down stairs to escape being burned up. This plan was made at military headquarters, and Harry G. Moor and A. T. Holman were the principal advisers.

"At about the time that Moyer was brought from Telluride to appear before the supreme court, Sherman Bell told me that he had positive assurance that the supreme court would back up any and all acts of the Peabody administration. During the morning of June 6th, Sherman Bell was called to the phone at the State House, in Denver, by some person in Cripple Creek, and in my presence made these remarks over the phone: 'So it has come off, has it? How many were killed? Will be up there to-night.'

"During the commission of all these crimes, and planning of crimes which were not committed, it was freely talked among the parties advising the commission of said crimes, that it was fully understood with Clarence Hamlin, the secretary of the Mine Owners Association, that these things should be done, and that he was acting with and heartily in sympathy with all of the matters which were planned by these people. All of the matters I have stated herein are true of my own personal knowledge. I occupied a position

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of responsibility, and was trusted and relied upon by these men; and they talked freely in my presence, and sometimes asked my advice with reference to these matters. Signed,

"CLAUD C. BALDWIN.
"Subscribed and sworn to before me this 26th day of September, A. D., 1906. My commission expires April 20, 1910.

"MINNIE C. MCCLARY,
"Notary Public."

Any man who can divest his mind of prejudice, and study the above recital without arriving at the conclusion that Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone are being persecuted by a band of as bold brigands as ever graced a gallows, must be innocent of all knowledge of human nature, to say the least. There is another reason, Bro. Ake, for ridding Colorado of these men, and that is, if they ever get into power there—that is get control of the law-making machinery and the courts—many of the members of the Mine Owners Association will be put behind the bars, where they should be at this moment, instead of being free to persecute honest men. F. P. HILBURN.
Locust Cottage, Ark., June 16, '07.

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Obituary.

Died—On Tuesday, June 4, 1907, at Farmington, Mo., M. OWENS, SR., of De Soto, Mo., aged 74 years. The deceased was born in Galway, Ireland. He came to America in 1849, locating in New York for a few years. After a time he accepted a position on the B. & O. Railroad and traveled in various States until 1883, when he was married to Miss Ellen McDonald, of Maryland, and located in Ironville, Mo., later moving to Marquette, thence to Fredericktown, and finally to De Soto. He and his wife became parents of fourteen children. His wife and eleven children survive him: Mary (Mrs. Reese), Michael, Nellie (Mrs. Welker), Maggie (Mrs. Bisch), Eugene, Julia, Doratha, Anastacia, Leresa (Mrs. Dean), Patrick and Thomas.

In the last few years of his life his eyesight failed him. He bore his misfortune bravely and always had a kind and loving word for all; had friends on every hand, harboring ill will towards none; never had an enemy, but a thousand friends. He was a kind and loving husband and father and a true Christian, and is sadly missed by all. The interment was from the Catholic church, Potosi, Mo., whence the remains were taken to the cemetery attended by a large number of friends and relatives.

A RELATIVE.
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Obituary.

Died, at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. W. M. Davis, of Pueblo, Colorado, June 3, 1907, Mrs. Angelina Latham. Mrs. Latham, nee Hillen, was born in Virginia, October 4, 1838, and came to Missouri while yet a child with her parents. She was married to Edward Latham June 17, 1858, and to this union seven children were born, five of whom survive her. Those living are W. M. Latham and Mrs. Mary Kidd, of Edge Hill, Mo.; Mrs. W. M. Davis and John Latham, of Pueblo, Colo.; and Monroe Latham, of Salt Lake City. She professed hope in Christ and joined the Missionary Baptist church many years ago. The funeral services were conducted by Rev. Campbell of the First Baptist church of Pueblo. She had been a constant sufferer and invalid from rheumatism for many years, but she bore her suffering well.

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Notice to Publishers of School Text Books.

Advertisement is hereby made by the County Text Book Commission of Iron county, Missouri, in accordance with the provisions of the Act of the Forty-Fourth General Assembly of Missouri, relating to text books, approved March 19, 1907, for bids from publishing houses for text books to be used exclusively in all the public schools of Iron county, Missouri, (except in such schools as may be exempt, as provided by Section 3 of said Act) for a period of five years; except that contracts for all books; introduced into the public schools since May 1, 1905, through recommendation of boards of directors or county boards of education, may be made to expire five years from the date of the first introduction of said books.

The subjects in which changes will be considered and the probable number of books of each kind required are as follows:

Name of Subjects	Probable Number Required.
Spelling	1500
Readers, for all grades	250
Geography, both books	1000
English Language and Grammar	1200
History, Primary and Advanced	1000
Copy books	500
Physiology, both books	1000
Civil Government	300
Algebra	150
Drawing Books	100
Dictionaries	100
Arithmetics, all grades	2000

HIGH SCHOOL TEXT BOOKS.

General Histories	50
Composition and Rhetoric	100
Physical Geography	50
Physics	50
Latin	50
Literature, English and American	50

Said bids shall be filed with the president of the County Text Book Commission, at his office in Ironton, County of Iron, State of Missouri, on or before the fifth day of July, 1907. Said County Text Book Commission reserve the right to reject any and all bids.

Done by order of the County Text Book Commission of Iron county, Missouri, this fifteenth day of June, 1907.

GEO. L. SMITH, President.
B. P. BURNHAM, Sec'y.

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